

CONFIDENTIAL

14 February 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Foreign Mineral Attaches

CIG interest in the Foreign Minerals Attaches dates from 6 March 1946 when Mr. Joseph McGrath, Chief of the Foreign Minerals Division of the Bureau of Mines, spoke with Admiral Souers regarding the Bureau's Foreign Minerals Service. Admiral Souers stated that CIG would want to "tie in" the work of the Foreign Minerals Attaches with its program of intelligence coordination and requested Mr. McGrath to keep CIG advised as to progress. Although the Bureau of Mines sent some minerals specialists abroad as Foreign Service Officers the scope of coverage contemplated was not achieved due to failure of Congress to supply funds.

2. As a result of the foregoing, Foreign Mineral Attaches achieved the status of a project on the records of the old Central Planning Staff and was assigned to the Information Branch. All such unfinished projects were transferred to ICAPS after the reorganization in July. Captain Watts of ICAPS revived the Foreign Minerals Attaches Project after a conversation with Mr. McGrath in January of this year, at which time ICAPS sent a short memorandum to the Director of Central Intelligence recommending support of the project. Mr. Pforzheimer advises that as he is certain ICAPS memorandum was not seen by General Vandenberg ORE should prepare another memorandum setting forth its interest in the work of the Foreign Minerals Attaches so that if an opportunity occurs and General Vandenberg is so disposed he can speak a word in favor of the project.

Functional Branch, ORE

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